

CROFTON

Copied from Horsea File

(Taken from a Clipping in O.R. Church's Scrap Book).

1930.

WOULD IMPROVE COOKSVILLE

ADD PADDOCK WITH HURDLES

MARTIN CROFTON, ASSOCIATED WITH SIR ADAM BECK DURING  
GREAT WAR, HAS PLANS FOR FUTURE

COOKSVILLE, Feb. 8.--"I came out here ten years ago, to raise stock, particularly fine saddle horses," Martin Crofton told the Telegram. "Instead of that, I have been getting the property I purchased into shape as a subdivision, and running a restaurant. But this year I hope to carry out at least one of the plans I had in mind when I came to Cooksville-- the laying out of a paddock, with hurdles, jumps and everything that provides exercise for horses and amusement for their riders."

Mr. Crofton recalled the work that he carried on during the entire course of the Great War, the purchasing of horses for the Dominion and British Governments. He was associated with Sire Adam Beck in buying horses for Ontario, and with the well-known Imperial soldier, Major Harr, in buying for Britain. He had been directed to Cooksville as an ideal place for a stockman, and after looking over several properties bought the Miles, Washington, Cook property, in the possession of that family for over 100 years. George Shepherd, from whom he purchased

directly, went in with Mr. Crofton, to make the most out of this beautifully situated land. A street was laid out to the southward, the western part of the frontage sold, a restaurant, the beginnings of the present widely-known Crofton Villa laid, and plans formulated for a subdivision immediately to the south of the property.

#### IS WELL-KNOWN RENDEZVOUS

The developement of the restaurant is well-known to motorists along the Dundas Highway...

Mr. Crofton through his love for fine horses, has been able to assist the Cooksville Fair Board in branching out at the annual fall fairs, by bringing smart hunters and jumpers for competition. He is now first vice-president of that organization, and hinted at still further development for next year.

Martin Crofton came to Cooksville in 1920 to raise stock particularly fine saddle horses. Instead of that he got the property he purchased into shape as a subdivision and built a restaurant. He bought the Miles Washington Cook property in the possession of that family for over 100 yrs. Geo. Shepherd from whom he purchased directly went in with Mr. Crofton to make the most of this beautifully situated land. For a short time the Lunch Room held 3 tables but expansion was soon necessary. The Dining Room was extended and later another extension made until it now has accommodation for 200 guests. Mr. & Mrs. Crofton reside in the old brick residence on the property built in 1880 by the late Washington Cook. It has been entirely remodelled by its present owner. Mr. Crofton erected a bungalow on the property to the south for the living quarters of his staff. There is a well fed by springs that has been in use for over 50 yrs. and from which the drinking water is supplied. Mr. Crofton has taken a very live interest in the Agricultural Fair especially in the horse department and holds competitions for hunters, jumpers and high steppers. Valuable prizes in this department have been secured by Mr. Crofton. He maintains on his Cooksville estate a string of fine animals some of which have been purchased by prominent Americans and Canadians. Mr. Crofton was elected President of Cooksville Agricultural Society for year 1932.

Agriculture  
Stock raising  
copying by  
M. D.

Mr. Crofton purchased horses for the Dominion and British Governments during the entire course of the Great War. He was associated with Sir Adam Beck in buying horses for Ontario and with the well-known Imperial Soldier Major Marr in buying for Britain.

The development of the restaurant is well known to motorists along the Dundas Highway. He has been ably assisted by Mrs. Crofton.

The conservator, May 29th, 1950.

CROFTON VILLA

Ten years ago Mr. Martin Crofton purchased George Shepherd farm with intentions of raising live stock. Finding that there was a great deal of frontage on the highway, Mr. Crofton decided to build a lunch room, which in time was remodelled, from a small old residence to a spacious and substantial building, which still brings interested visitors to the village.

During the war Mr. Crofton bought horses for the Imperial and for the Candian armies. He keeps up his interest in horses by maintaining on his Cooksville estate a string of fine animals, some of which have been purchased by prominent Canadian and Americans.

File under  
(Fair) Crofton

Part Lot 15, Con. 1, South side Dundas St.,

14870

AGRICULTURE STOCK RAISING

Mr. Martin Crofton has taken a very live interest in the Agricultural Fair especially in the horse department and holds competitions for hunters, jumpers, and high steppers. Valuable prizes in this department have been secured by Mr. Crofton. He maintains on his Cooksville estate a string of fine animals, some of which have been purchased by prominent Americans and Canadians. Mr. Crofton was elected President of Cooksville Agricultural Society for year 1932. Mr. Crofton purchased horses for the Dominion and British Governments during the entire course of the Great War. He was associated with Sir Adam Beck in buying horses for Ontario and with the well-known Imperial soldier Major Marr in buying for Britain.